

Message Text

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TAGS: PINT, U.K. (N.I.)

SUBJECT: FRANK STAGG, BLOODY SUNDAY ANNIVERSARY
AND WEEK-END VIOLENCE IN ULSTER

1. ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATION OF BLOODY SUNDAY, THE LAST SUNDAY IN JANUARY 1972 WHEN 13 CATHOLIC MALES SHOT AND KILLED BY BRITISH TROOPS WAS ORGANIZED IN LONDONDERRY FEB. 1 BY PROVISIONAL SINN FEIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND CIVIL RIGHTS ASSOCIATION. SPEECHES AND DEMONSTRATIONS FEATURED SUPPORT FOR HUNGER-STRIKER FRANK STAGG AND WARNINGS ABOUT CONSEQUENCES IF HE DIES. ACCORDING TO SPEECHES THESE CONSEQUENCES INCLUDE SHIPPING HOME BODIES OF SPECIAL AIR SERVICE IN RETURN FOR STAGG BODY AND WARNING THAT, WHILE THERE HAVE BEEN BOMBS, "PEOPLE IN BRITAIN HAVE SEEN NOTHING YET COMPARED WITH WHAT THEY WILL GET IN THE NOT TOO DISTANT FUTURE." THERE SOME STONE-THROWING AT TROOPS AND AT CROWD IN PROTESTANT HOUSING ESTATE BUT NO SERIOUS TROUBLE LONDONDERRY. IN OTHER DEMONSTRATIONS FOR STAGG, DUBLIN/BELFAST TRAINS DELAYED AND THERE NUMEROUS ROAD-BLOCKS AND DEMONSTRATIONS IN PROVINCE.

2. THERE CONSIDERABLE TENSION BELFAST AREA OVER WEEKEND. VARIOUS COUNTS OF FINAL DEATH TOLL FROM VIOLENCE
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IN PROVINCE IN JANUARY RANGE BETWEEN FORTY-FIVE AND

FIFTY-ONE DEPENDING ON WHETHER ACCIDENTAL DEATHS SUCH AS SHOOTING OF BUS DRIVER BY ARMY ARE INCLUDED AND WHETHER THOSE WOUNDED IN 1975 AND DYING IN 1976 ARE COUNTED. IN ANY CASE JANUARY 1976 WAS THIRD BLOODIEST MONTH AFTER JULY 1972 (94 DEAD) AND AUGUST 1972 (55 DEAD). TWO KILLED IN PROTESTANT SHANKILL, ONE BY SOLDIER AS PATROL ATTACKED WHILE INSPECTING BAR. THIS CAUSED NEAR-RIOT IN SHANKILL AREA AND TROOPS FIRED ON. ONE DEAD IN PROTESTANT SANDY ROW PUB IN EXPLOSION NO-WARNING BOMB JAN. 30. PROVISIONAL IRA SEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR BOMB DESTRUCTION HOTEL NEAR AIRPORT JAN. 31 AND NO-CASUALTY ATTACK ON NEWRY POLICE STATION NIGHT FEB. 1-2.

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